GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:177
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005
DRUG POLICY FOR CONTROL OF MALARIA
Nayak Shri Ananta;Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to formulate a drug policy for Malaria Control in view of increasing cases of Malaria all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to involve NGOs, Community based Organisations, Panchayats, Private Organisations etc. in combating the disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) & (b) The Directorate of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, Government of India has formulated "Malaria Drug Policy" for treatment and prevention of malaria and is reviewed periodically to optimize use and effectiveness of drugs and combination of the drugs. The main drug for control of malaria is chloroquine and primaquine as per drug policy. Furthermore, the Programme uses sulpha-pyrimethamine artesunate combination therapy for Plasmodium falciparum(Pf) cases in drug resistant areas.

(c) & (d) It is proposed by the Government to involve NGOs, Community based Organisations, Panachyats, Private Organisations etc. in combating the disease. The main areas of involvement would be early case detection and integrated vector management and this Ministry has issued guidelines for this purpose.

The activities would involve establishment of Drug Distribution Centres(DDCs) and Fever Treatment Depots(FTDs) at village level, strengthening the malaria microscopy centers and referral services especially for managing severe and complicated malaria, promoting use of insecticide treated bednets (ITBN) and larvivorous fish as well as carry out indoor residual spray in selected pockets of high risk areas in consultation with the centers/state/district. The Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) activities and capacity building of medical and paramedical personnels would be integral part of these activities.